Executive Proclamation

State of South Dakota

Office of the Governor

Whereas, On average in the United States a child is reported missing every 43 seconds; and,

Whereas, The National Center for Missing and Exploited Children and its partners are working diligently to reduce these numbers, and recognizes the comprehensive Masonic Child Identification Program (CHIP) as one of the most complete child recovery and identification programs in the nation; and,

Whereas, At CHIP events, Masons generate individual completed child identification kits that are given to the parent or guardian to take home for safekeeping, and this completed kit can be provided to authorities to aid in the recovery of a missing child; and,

Whereas, The CHIP is being offered by Masonic jurisdictions in twenty states and continues to be adopted by Masons across North America; and,

Whereas, South Dakota Masons began the CHIP in 2008 and will soon reach a key milestone by identifying the 20,000th South Dakota child through the program; and,

Whereas, The Masons of South Dakota will celebrate this exciting accomplishment on February 13, 2016, which has been designated as a special day to promote child identification and safety education in South Dakota:

Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim February 13, 2016, as

CHILD IDENTIFICATION PROGRAM (CHIP) DAY

in South Dakota.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Twelfth Day of February in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Sixteen.

Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State